



May 2009

Around The Corner

The U.S. Consulate General in Amsterdam's Newsletter



At Your Service



Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial, Margraten, The Netherlands

U.S. Memorial Day, May 25, 2009

Every year, the United States sets aside the last Monday of May to remember and pay tribute to those who died in military service. In the Netherlands, a commemorative memorial service will take place on Sunday, May 24 at 3:00 p.m. at the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial, in Margraten, Province of Limburg. To learn more about the cemetery at Margraten or other American Battle Monuments in other parts of the world visit: <http://www.abmc.gov/home.php>.

The U.S. Consulate General in Amsterdam Is Closed in Observance of the following holidays:

Thursday, May 21, 2009 Ascension Day (NL)

Monday, May 25, 2009 Memorial Day (US)

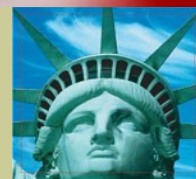
Monday, June 1, 2009 Whit Monday (Pinksteren) (NL)



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Dutch Memorial Day, Dodeherdenking 4 May

There were two events on the 4th of May in which the staff at the Consulate General took part. The first was in the morning at the Nieuwe Oosterbegraafplaats in Amsterdam. Together with Mayor Cohen and other city and other national officials, Consul General Ames laid flowers and paid her respects to all who served and were killed during World War II. In addition to the Dutch and British soldiers and resistance fighters, four American servicemen are laid to rest here.



(L-R) Mayor Amsterdam Job Cohen, Alderman Ruud Nederveen, Consul General Ames, Deputy Head of Mission of the British Embassy, Robert Fairweather

In the evening, Consul General Ames and other members of the Dutch and American communities also paid their respects to eight American airmen buried in a churchyard in Opijnen, The Netherlands. As in the entire country, two minutes of silence were observed to remember those fallen during World War II and all subsequent wars and peacekeeping missions. For more information about the members of this crew *Man-O-War* shot down over the Dutch Betuwe, please see: www.awca.nl and www.basher82.nl.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

Come celebrate at a community picnic on:

SATURDAY, JULY 4 – 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: American Baseball Foundation fields, Wassenaar

(next to American School of the Hague)

Activities: Consular services, Marine BBQ; Children's Activities; Music; FUN

SAVE THE DATE!



Consular Warden Message

A new strain of H1N1 Influenza A, sometimes referred to as swine flu has been detected in Mexico and the U.S. This new strain is believed to have caused over 1,600 cases of illness in Mexico, with an estimated 100 fatalities. At this time, the CDC reports only 20 confirmed cases in the U.S., none of which has been fatal. There have also been confirmed cases in Canada, New Zealand and Spain. There have been three reported cases in the Netherlands. The flu responds well to two antiviral medications.

The Netherlands has stocked up antiviral medications according to carefully prepared pandemic scenarios. In case the need arises for antiviral medications, to access these antivirals without delay in The Netherlands, you MUST have registered with a "huisarts" (family/general practitioner physician) for everyone in your family. [Click Here](#) for more information about health and medical services in The Netherlands. This information is contained in the Consulate General's website: <http://amsterdam.usconsulate.gov>.

You are encouraged to follow the everyday actions listed below that can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses like influenza:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
- Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

For further information about Human Swine Influenza, please consult the Department of State information on Swine Flu at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_pandemic.html, the United States Centers for Disease Control website at <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/> or the World Health Organization website at <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>.

The American Book Center and the
U.S. Consulate General Present a Lecture Series:

400 Years of Shared Dutch American History, Where do we go from Here

***Freedom for the Thought We Hate: How Toleration of Racist Speech,
Nazis, and Flag Burning Safeguards Liberty in the U.S.***

Wednesday, June 10, 2009, 1830 (6:30 p.m.)

This is the second in a series of discussion evenings, each featuring a different topic emerging from Dutch and American shared values. It will be led by a diplomat from the U.S. Consulate General and moderated by Donna DuCarme, Manager of the American Book Center's cultural venue, the ABC Treehouse. On Wednesday, June 8, 2009 at 1830 hrs (6:30 p.m.), Consul Michael Barkin will discuss free speech. The evening begins with a cocktail half-hour (bring a drink or snack to share) followed by the speaker's brief remarks and audience discussion and will end by 2030 hrs (8:30 p.m.).

All evenings will be held at the ABC Treehouse

Voetboogstraat 11, Amsterdam

(just across the square from the American Book Center).

Seating is limited, reservations can be made via: <http://www.treehouse.abc.nl>.

<http://amsterdam.usconsulate.gov>

